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rations, as a practical text-book for the student of law, and it will certainly serve as a useful book of reference for the busy practitioner.

R. D. S.

PROBLEMS AND QUIZ ON COMMON-LAW PLEADING. By EARL P. HOPKINS. St. Paul, Minn.: West Publishing Co. 1894.

This handy little collection of questions on Pleading seems upon examination to be as it professes, "especially adapted for use with SHIPMAN'S Hand-book of Common-Law Pleading." It also appears to belie its innocent appearance, for while most of the problems stated are such as a student can readily solve with a little thought, there is sandwiched in here and there, by way of seasoning, one of those articles known as catch-questions, which even courts have not yet solved with unanimity. This does not detract from its value, however, and it will be found most useful to the student by affording him an opportunity for a practical application of the principles learned, without which the study of law would be a drier field of knowledge than the valley of dry bones.

R. D. S.

ARCHITECT, OWNER AND BUILDER BEFORE THE LAW. By T. M. CLARK, Fellow of the American Institute of Architects. New York: McMillan & Co. 1894. Price, \$3.00.

This is a law book written by an architect. It is divided into three parts, which treat, respectively, of the architect and the owner; the architect and the builder; and the builder and the owner. Each part is divided into chapters, which cover quite fully all the ordinary questions of law likely to arise between the respective parties. Many decisions have been consulted, and important cases are quite fully cited.

The book having been written by an architect, the point of view, in some instances, is different from that which would be taken by a lawyer; but there are few, if any, statements of the law which would mislead the lay reader. Considering that the book was not written by a lawyer, its breadth and accuracy are remarkable; and the fact that its author has had special

experience and training in the practical working of the relations of which he treats, gives his comments and criticisms a point and suggestiveness that might have been lacking if the the book were from the pen of a trained lawyer who was without this special experience.

Architects, builders and owners will find the book interesting and valuable as giving them the legal aspect of their relations; and lawyers who have to do with the subject-matters treated of, will be thankful to find so many cases collected and clearly stated on matters not covered satisfactorily by any other treatise known to the writer.

One of the strongest evidences of practical wisdom in the writing of the book is shown by the author not attempting to give the mechanic's lien laws of the different states, which he speaks of as in "a constant state of transition," a remark, the force of which particularly appeals to a Pennsylvania lawyer.

At the end of the volume are three forms of contracts between the builder and the owner, which are worthy of being consulted by any lawyer who has a contract of this kind to draw or pass upon, especially the third form.

An alphabetical list of cases cited, and a second list giving the cases of each state alphabetically, are given. The index is reasonably full, but seems to the writer not as well executed as the rest of the book.

B. H. L.

A TREATISE ON DISPUTED HANDWRITING AND THE DETERMINATION OF GENUINE FROM FORGED SIGNATURES; THE CHARACTER AND COMPOSITION OF INKS, AND THEIR DETERMINATION BY CHEMICAL TESTS; THE EFFECT OF AGE AS MANIFESTED IN THE APPEARANCE OF WRITTEN INSTRUMENTS AND DOCUMENTS. By WILLIAM E. HAGAN, Expert in Handwriting. (All rights reserved.) Albany, N. Y.: Banks & Brothers. 1894.

This book came to our hands for review after Prof. FRAZER's work had been read, and has been read entirely through, with